

THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A filter bag for oral administration of medication comprising:
 a therapeutically effective amount of at least one medicinal agent,
 wherein the filter bag is formed of at least one sheet of porous material
 affixed together along margins to create sealed edges of the filter bag and to hold a beverage
 concentrate for infusion in a liquid,
- 10 and wherein the at least one medicinal agent is applied to the at least one
 sheet of porous material prior to affixing the margins.

2. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one medicinal agent
 selected from the group consisting of a pharmaceutical active, a supplemental nutrient, a
- 15 genetically derived material, a beneficial agent, and a combination thereof.

3. The filter bag of claim 2, wherein the pharmaceutical active is
 selected from the group consisting of aspirin, a chemotherapy agent, an anti-neoplastic
 agent, a mood elevating drug, a depressant drug, an anti-diabetic drug, an anti-ulcer drug, a
- 20 gastrointestinal drug, an infertility drug, a fertility drug, a hormone, an erectile dysfunction
 agent, an anti-inflammatory drug, a coagulation drug, an anti-coagulant drug, an anti-
 platelet agent, an ace inhibitor, a cardiovascular conditioning drug, a cholesterol reducing
 agent, a lipid reducing agent, an antihistamine drug, an anti-infective agent, an autonomic
 drug, a central nervous system agents, a smooth muscle relaxant, an antitussive agent, a
- 25 mucolytic agent, and a combination thereof.

4. The filter bag of claim 2, wherein the supplemental nutrient is
 selected from the group consisting of eucalyptus, glutamine, arginine, a fermentable dietary
 fiber, a non-fermentable dietary fiber, a phytochemical, an anti-oxidant, a mineral, an amino
- 30 acid, an oligosaccharide, a short chain fatty acid, a pyruvate precursor, a pyruvyl-amino
 acid, an ester, a salt, a structured lipid, d-chiroinositol, lactoferrin, a marine oil, an ascorbic
 acid, and a combination thereof.

5. The filter bag of claim 2, wherein the beneficial agent is selected from the group consisting of a probiotic, an enzyme, an electrolytic agent, a caloric agent, a water balance agent, a rehydration solution, a diagnostic agent, a vitamin, and a combination thereof.

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6. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the filter bag is used in cold or hot liquids.

7. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the agent solubilizes when in
10 contact with a liquid.

8. The filter bag of claim 7, wherein the agent is dispersed in a predetermined dosage amount into the liquid.

9. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one medicinal agent is
15 disposed between two layers of the at least one sheet of porous material.

10. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one medicinal agent is present in a mixture with a drug releasing element and the mixture is applied to the at least
20 one sheet of porous material.

11. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one medicinal agent is disposed between the at least one sheet of porous material and a layer comprising a drug releasing element.

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12. The filter bag of claim 11, wherein the drug releasing element is gelatin.

13. The filter bag of claim 12, wherein the gelatin dissolves when in
30 contact with the liquid and releases the at least one medicinal agent into the liquid.

14. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one medicinal agent is mixed with at least one enzymatically active material.

15. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one medicinal agent is present in a mixture comprising a temperature releasing agent.

16. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one medicinal agent is present in a mixture comprising a degradable material to provide a prolonged shelf life for the medicament.

17. The filter bag of claim 2, wherein the at least one medicinal agent is present in a mixture comprising a flavor producing or reducing agent.

18. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the at least one sheet of porous material is selected from the group consisting of reinforced paper, knitted material, woven material, fibrous material, and a combination thereof.

19. The filter bag of claim 1, wherein the filter bag holds a beverage concentrate selected from the group consisting of tea leaves, powdered tea, powdered milk, apple cider, powdered soup, hot cocoa, and instant coffee.

20. A filter paper for oral administration of medication comprising:
a therapeutically effective amount of at least one medicinal agent selected from the group consisting of a pharmaceutical active, a supplemental nutrient, a genetically derived material, a beneficial agent, and a combination thereof,
wherein the filter paper is formed of at least one sheet of porous material, and wherein the at least one medicinal agent is applied to the at least one sheet of porous material thereby producing a coated filter paper.

21. The filter paper of claim 20, wherein the coated filter paper further comprises a drug releasing layer to protect the at least one medicinal agent during storage.

22. A method of making a medicinally coated filter bag comprising the steps of:

providing a first filter bag layer of porous material;

applying a therapeutically effective amount of at least one medicinal agent

- 5 selected from the group consisting of a pharmaceutical active, a supplemental nutrient, a genetically derived material, a beneficial agent, and a combination thereof to the first filter bag layer thereby producing a coated layer; and

forming a pouch by sealing together margins of the porous material to form closed edges of the filter bag.

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23. The method of claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

providing a second filter bag layer of porous material; and

laying the second filter bag layer on top of the coated layer.

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24. The method of claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

providing a gelatin coating; and

applying the gelatin coating to the coated layer.

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25. The method of claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

providing a beverage concentrate selected from the group consisting of tea leaves, powdered tea, powdered milk, apple cider, powdered soup, hot cocoa, and instant coffee; and

inserting the beverage concentrate into the pouch prior to sealing at least one edge of the filter bag.

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